ABSTRACT

Known compounds showing negative dielectric anisotropy show negative dielectric anisotropy of relatively large values but are not satisfactory in view of the balance of the physical property as the liquid crystal material such as having low clearing point and showing high viscosity. The present invention intends to provide a liquid crystalline compound showing a negative dielectric anisotropy, as well as having excellent balance for physical property such as having relatively high clearing point, relatively low viscosity, appropriate optical anisotropy, and excellent compatibility with other liquid crystalline compounds.

The compound of the invention is a compound represented by Formula (1) or Formula (2). In the formulae, Ra and Rb each independently is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, A^1, A^{11}, A^{12}, A^2, A^{21} and A^{22} each independently is a cyclic group, Y, W, Z^{11}, Z^{12}, Z^2, Z^{21} and Z^{22} each independently is a bonding group, and j, k, m, n, p and q each independently is 0 or 1 and the sum of them is 1, 2 or 3;